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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/052,891	01/18/2002	Adi A. Scheidemann	UWOTL118604	1012

26389 7590 02/26/2004

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SEATTLE, WA 98101-2347

EXAMINER
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KOHNER, MATTHEW J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3653

DATE MAILED: 02/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/052,891

Applicant(s)

SCHEIDEMANN ET AL.

Examiner

Matthew J Kohner

Art Unit

3653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the corresponding address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Preliminary Amendment and Remarks***

Applicants have pointed out in the remarks accompanying the preliminary amendment that the obviousness-type double patenting rejection in the parent case (09/469,662) of the present case should be withdrawn.

The examiner has carefully reviewed the file histories of both applications:

- 09/325,926 (now Patent No. 6,182,831)
- 09/469,662 (divisional of 09/325,936).

Examiner agrees that a double patenting rejection cannot be sustained in this case. As applicant states, in regard to a divisional application, 35 USC 121 prohibits a double patenting rejection wherein the basis of the rejection is the issued patent of the parent case (provided the two cases were copending).

### ***Response to Election***

Applicant has cancelled claims 27-35. Therefore, claims 1-26 are currently pending in the application.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as

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the invention. Specifically, the claims are narrative in form and describe only the function of the apparatus without recitation of any structure to perform the recited function.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 8 and 9 appear to be claiming a natural phenomenon. Claim 7 claims increasing the gap along the path of the beam so that the strength of the field decreases. However, the amount the field decreases as a result of the increase in the gap is a natural phenomenon.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4, 6, 20 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,043,488 to Bahatt et al.

Bahatt discloses a magnetic separator for charged particle beam separation that provides a linear dispersion of the charged particles proportional to their mass-energy-to-charge ratio, wherein the linear dispersion is achieved by an inhomogeneous magnetic field (Col. 1, lines 67- Col. 2, line 9).

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In regard to claim 2, Bahatt discloses a second magnetic field in another plane (Col 2, lines 36+).

In regard to claim 4, Bahatt discloses a third magnetic field for re-collimating and directing the beam (Col. 3, lines 36+).

In regard to claims 6, 20 and 22, Bahatt discloses a plurality of magnetic fields though which pass charged particle beams.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5 and 10-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bahatt.

Bahatt discloses a magnetic or electrostatic field. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the magnetic or electrostatic field could be produced by methods known in the art.

Claims 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bahatt in view of US Patent No. 5,317,151 to Sinha et al.

Bahatt does not disclose a flux return yoke. However, high permeability yokes are known in the art for producing a high magnetic flux in the gap between poles (See e.g. US Patent

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No. 5,317,151 to Sinha). It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use such a yoke in Bahatt's device for that purpose.

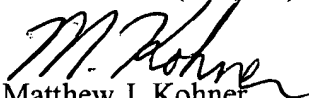
***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew J. Kohner whose telephone number is 703-305-8496. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Donald Walsh can be reached on 703-306-4173. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Matthew J. Kohner  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3653

MJK

  
DONALD P. WALSH  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600